



# SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



Vol. 18 No. 3

SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION

September 1979

## 333 SIGNED UP — 470 SHOWED UP!

On the afternoon of May 31, 1979 a special contingent of 2nd Air Division personnel took off for yet another target — Norwich, England. Thirty-four years after the real thing, conditions and equipment were a bit different.

A charter flight originated in Chicago, stopped in Philadelphia to pick up more personnel and then took off for the long trip across the water. Three smaller supporting units took off from Boston, New York and Miami. It is a tribute to modern transportation — aided by a great deal of advance planning on the part of Evelyn Cohen and Hank Tevelin — that we all ended up at the same place at the same time, right on target in Norwich.

For the men it was a question, probably several questions. How much had the old base changed? Would there be anybody I knew during those trying years? Was the old watering hole still there?

For the wives and family members it was anticipation. Now, at last, they were going to see where their husbands and fathers spent the war years. They were also going to find out what the magic attraction was about Norwich and East Anglia that kept their husbands remembering for over 34 years. Most important of all it was going to be a new experience, one which many of them thought they would never have the opportunity to enjoy.

At this point it will serve no useful purpose to go over the 'ups' and 'downs' of the months spent in planning and bringing this off. Suffice it to say that when the trend was 'up' Evelyn was there leading the pack, and when the trend was 'down' Evelyn adamantly refused to give up. It was by reason of her tenacious attitude throughout these trying months that we were now gathered on the threshold of what turned out to be a very wonderful experience.



Rick Rokicki lays 2nd Air Division wreath at the Cambridge Cemetery.

Adding to her problems was the fact that we expected 333 who had signed up for the festivities in Norwich — their names appear elsewhere in these pages — and when the final tally was taken we discovered that over the five day period 470 attended the various events.

During the welcoming feast at ancient St. Andrew's Hall Evelyn took the mike and loudly proclaimed that this would be the last reunion held in Norwich. This brought cries of dismay from the assembled members, but they need not have worried.

After feasting at the many banquet tables of Antiquity London



Banquet night at St. Andrews Hall — all 470 of them.

has to offer, her refrain suddenly changed to "maybe one more time". So rest easy folks. In another couple of years we'll be taking off again for 'one more mission'.

Rather than bore you with a diary-like description of what transpired, this issue of the *JOURNAL* (how do you like our new name?!) will contain articles which appeared in the Norwich Newspapers, photographs which were taken by our members and comments from those who were there.

A special note of thanks goes to Mr. Alfred Jenner, Managing Director of the Eastern County Newspapers and a member of our Board of Governors, for his generosity in providing photos taken by his staff and for giving us permission to reprint both the photos and articles.

For those of you who couldn't make the trip we hope this makes you feel as if you were there. For those who did make the trip, we hope this brings back memories of a wonderful moment in your lives. One we hope you will always remember.

Next year it is on to Cambridge, Mass. during the July 4th weekend. Hope to see you all there.

## Second Air Division Association Eighth Air Force

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Norwich, Norfolk, England

## I am honored

to have been chosen by the delegates at our Norwich annual Reunion to serve as the Association Vice-President for this coming year.

The Second Air Division Association is unique in that it has been commissioned, in perpetuity, to maintain the 2nd Air Division Memorial (the Memorial Library Wing at the Central Library, Norwich, England) as a living, vibrant memorial to those in our units who died along side of us, that we might live, and live in peace. And this memorial is unique among memorials: it is a library, thus non-sectarian, and thereby representing all equally; it is located in Norwich, the center of wartime activities of our, and their, units; and it is in daily public use as a center to study, read, reflect, remember.

The Association is special to me because its membership is made up of a homogeneous group of persons with whom I am proud to be associated: persons who in some way, and at some time, identified with B-24s and their support, with East Anglia, and with WW II; and who are a generation (of both Americans and British) who suffered, sacrificed, and worked together through a major depression and a major war, to help win both, and thereby provide a measure of peace and freedom for the world.

The Association has enjoyed the good fortune through the years of outstanding leadership, both in the U.S. and in Britain.



A core of relatively permanent, dedicated, and competent British leaders manage the Trust and Library functions in England, and a like U.S. group guide the organizational functions in the States, giving the Association continuity and stability on both sides of the Ocean. These are supplemented by more transitory but equally able and dedicated persons serving terms as Association officers and Group representatives. This year, with Pete Henry heading up the latter as Association President, and with a fine team of Group Vice-Presidents, our Association's history of past success will continue.

As Association Vice-President, I am committed, and excited in my commitment, to help Pete, and each of you, in furthering the aims and goals of the Association. And, in addition, to meet the challenge of strengthening our membership, not only in terms of increase in numbers of responsible members for the present, but also to provide for a proper composite to counteract membership attrition in the future as our current membership ages. I also look forward to working to find means to increase our funding of the Memorial Trust to offset the erosive effect of inflation; and to work toward closer comradeships among members, through more and varied intercommunications and get-togethers.

I invite each of you to contact me concerning the Association whenever you feel I can be of help. My job is to help you and Pete evolve an even better 2nd Air Division Association!

David G. Patterson  
Vice-President

## This is Your President Speaking

Our return from the 32nd Reunion of the Second Air Division Association was marred by severe colds and it seemed like half the people on the charter flight back to Philadelphia/Chicago brought a little bit of England back with them. But it didn't dampen our ardor or dull the good memories we had of five (for us - 6) wonderful days in Norwich.

As they did in 1975, when we were last there, our good friends 'over there' rolled out the red carpet and made us feel right at home. The hotel accommodations were top drawer, the food was good and plentiful, and, best of all, camaraderie abounded. None of us can thank Evelyn Cohen, *et al.*, enough for the splendid job they did in planning and executing this 'Mission' and, even



though she (Evelyn Cohen) says never again, don't bet your life savings on it.

Out membership is now about 3400, a 250% increase in the past six years. I would like to see it reach 4000 in the next twelve months. To do this, we need the help of every member, not just the Jonassons, the Fagens, the Krauses, etc. We need young people to keep the Association alive. Anyone in your family can be an Associate Member. Any friend who is genuinely interested in the Second Air Division Association can become a sustaining member. All of these members will receive the Newsletter and may attend our reunions. Do you enjoy our reunions? Do you see any reason why they wouldn't enjoy our reunions?

I would like to thank the Nominating Committee for placing my name on the ballot this year and the membership for supporting their choice. Rick Rokicki left me with a tough act to follow, but I will make every effort to justify your faith in me.

Howard C. Henry, Jr.



# 1979 REUNION NORWICH AND BACK (WITHOUT ONE BURST OF FLAK!)



by Milt Stokes (453rd)

We went back to those airfields in East Anglia from which we flew in World War II. We didn't quite know what to expect. Some had said there was not much to see — the fields were now all plowed and sown to barley — chicken coops on old hardstands — runways bulldozed for their stone. But the call to see was strong. We went!!

At "Old Buck", Hethel, and all the rest of those old airfields, we took a journey back some thirty-five years. The hump was still in the main runway at Hethel. Many a bomber struggled to get air-borne over its elevation, but it bothered not the handmade Lotus cars that buzzed around the perimeter track and main strip now.

Finding "Old Buck" was more difficult than locating Hethel. Hard by the south side of the field we stopped at a cottage to seek directions. The lady of the house answered our knock on the door. "Oh yes, the dirt road you just passed leads to the old field." When we explained our mission and why a bus load of men would seek such a place, a look of deep understanding and expectation filled her face. "... and you're from the 453rd - do you know...?" With that some half dozen names spilled from her lips. Names she had long remembered. Thirty-five years were as yesterday to old friends.

The red bus was backed up and the road ahead was dusty and bumpy. Buses don't travel on old airfields, but we had permission from the present owners to explore. Field hands on tractors gave halting directions. They knew not the field when it rumbled and roared as a mission was put in the air.

The main runway was located, the bus stopped and we old flyers tumbled out. This was it!! What a feeling!! The strip showed it's age — cracks and loose paving everywhere. We picked up some pebbles for souvenirs. Clear warm sunshine flooded the silent field. Here on this strip where thousands of our companions who never returned. We were remembering the heavily loaded ships that crashed at the end of the runway on take off; the exploding bombs; the clouds of black smoke; the crippled B-24's that had found their way home only to crash land and burn. We remembered seeing our friends shot out of the sky over Germany — of the empty beds in those cold Nissen huts after a rough mission.

Yes, we trembled inside. Grown men, with hot tears burning our eyes. All those

memories were fresh now. The faces were young and expectant. Again we rode the liberty run to blacked out Norwich — to London — to Edinburgh — even little Attleborough. Nor could we forget those civilians who put up with the rumbling roar of thousands of assembling bombers, some who lost lives and homes in fiery crashes of planes and bombs all around East Anglia.

So we came to pay homage — we knew that now. Too bad that most of these airfields would soon be completely obliterated. They were hallowed ground to those of us who worked and flew from them.

The bus was reloaded. We drove to hangar areas on portions of the tarmac still in good shape. An old fire engine house still stood. Pigs grunted and squealed from a service hut. Here a portion of a red brick bomb shelter, overgrown with rank weeds caught the eye. These shelters were used but two times, in our memory, during enemy bomb alerts. We felt we would

rather die in a warm bed than freeze to death in the security of the shelter's frigid walls. A number of other buildings still stood and like us showed age.

But we believed those airfields, so poignant in our memories, should not pass into oblivion unmarked and unnoticed. Suitable plaques or monuments could and should be erected in nearby Churchyards or Memorial plots, marking the airfields locations. At "Old Buck" we resolved that such a marker would be erected in the future.

It was a moving experience to go back again to England. The people of Norwich and East Anglia were as wonderful as we had remembered them. With old buddies we fought the war all over again. In old country villages, we found some old friends and made some new ones. But we looked in vain for some who have passed on. All of us hoped they remembered us as fondly as we remembered them.

## In Memoriam

*At the Convention in Norwich belated recognition was given to the passing of Frederick Bryan in the form of a donation of \$50.00 collected from a group of his friends to the Memorial Library. Fred was one of the three men who originally came to Gen. Kepner with the idea for the Memorial, and the subsequent collection of the funds, after V.E. day was a project he supervised. In addition to being a Founder Governor of the Memorial Trust, he was Deputy Chief of Staff of 2nd Air Division, and following his return to civilian life he was appointed a Federal Judge in the district of New York by President Eisenhower.*

*Similar recognition was given to the passing of Lt. Col. Michael Barne, husband of Anne Barne who also was a founder governor of the Memorial Trust. Mrs. Barne has served our cause since 1945, and is still an active Governor of the Trust. In expressing our sympathy to her in Norwich in June, we were given her grateful thanks at the Governor's meeting on 6 June for this recognition of her late husband.*

*A personal donation of \$100.00 to the Book Fund was given by Laurence Gram, former Air Sea Rescue officer at Horsham St. Faith in memory of Commander James Chaplin, Royal Navy who was the British Liaison Air Sea Rescue Officer at 2nd Air Division Headquarters. Much of Stinker (as he was affectionately called) Chaplin's time was spent visiting our bases briefing our crews on Air Sea Rescue procedures. His individual efforts helped save the lives of many Americans.*

Jordan R. Uttal

## Thank You

What else can I say? When you put together a Reunion there are always unsung heroes in the background helping to carry the load, and it is my intention to thank them in print for the job they did towards helping to make our 1979 Reunion in Norwich the huge success it was.

Edie & Hank Tevelin: Without these two and their sound advice on charters it is doubtful we would have reached the end of the runway to take off.

Hathy Veynar: Unsung heroine who not only took on the Pentagon when at the last minute they said we could not land at Mildenhall, but also took on the Commanding Officer at Mildenhall when *he* said the plane couldn't land. Both ends gave her trouble but she handled them magnificently. In addition she, Milt and Caron lugged all the travel bags from Virginia to Philadelphia to see to it that everybody had one.

George Wortley: Our Norwich travel agent and adviser who, though ill and housebound, was my eyes and ears in Norwich.

Tom Eaton: As usual our most effective spokesman in Norwich who opens up City Halls, Castles and Country Estates — privately owned I might add!

Ed & Anita Goldsmith: For their assistance in Chicago to get that portion of the charter flight off and running.

Del Wangsvick: Thanks for your help in getting the Florida Group together.

The following are familiar names to all of you, but without their shoulders to lean on, plus their good advice, no reunion would be successful. Hazel & Bill Robertie, Pete and Mary Henry, Ceil and Rick Rokicki and our Chairman on the Board of Governors Jordan Uttal and lovely Joyce.

In Norwich we owe a sincere

'thank you' to the Lord Mayor and her staff, to Mrs. Anne Barne who opened her home to 100 of our members and calmly served them lunch. To Lord Coke for inviting us to his home, Holcomb Hall, and allowing us to troop through and absorb some wonderful history. We also thank John Archer and all those members of the Friends of the 2nd AD for allowing us to visit and picnic.

To the Board of Governors and Librarians, a special 'thank you' for making our Memorial Library a joy to visit. To the people of Norwich a 'thank you' for making us feel at home.

To all our members who were in Norwich a 'thank you' from me for your kindness and good cheer when things did not always go as planned. A nicer group of people, I have never met. I hope to see you all next year in Cambridge, Mass. Please be there.

Evelyn Cohen

## About the Memorial WE MADE IT!!

### BUT THERE'S STILL A LONG WAY TO GO!!

In August 1978, after the San Diego Convention, I wrote in these pages about the Memorial Trust Fund. The headline of the article was, "37 Down - 13 to go." For those of you who did not see the article, we were referring to the fact that we were in the midst of a special 5 year Fund Raising drive, to raise \$50,000 for the Capital Fund, to provide more annual income for the purchase of books and for keeping our Living Memorial from getting ragged around the edges. This action was adopted at the Wilmington, N.C. convention in July 1974. So, last year's report advised you that four years into the drive we had collected \$37,000, and with one year left, we still needed \$13,000 to fulfill our commitment.

Well — thanks to each of you who contributed, we made it! Bill Robertie, who was our President in 1974, spoke at our final Banquet in Norwich, this year, and speaking to Tom Eaton, he said, "It is my very great privilege and pleasure to advise you on behalf of the 2nd Air Division Association, that in mid July 1979, our Treasurer, Dean Moyer, will cash in the Certificates of Deposit covering our 1979 collections for the Trust, and will forward you a check in the amount of \$13,000. Tom, in old math, \$37,000 plus \$13,000 equals \$50,000. We have kept our word.

Use the money well." We repeat our sincere thanks to everyone who made it possible for us to reach our goal! But, I have to say to all of you that there still remains a long way for us to go. Let me give you a few facts:

When we left England on June 16, 1979, the pound was costing \$2.11. Last night (I am writing this on July 28) the pound was up to \$2.32. In early 1979, \$10.00 donation to the Library bought £5. Today that same donation will buy £4.30.

In 1974 when we started our drive, the Trust Fund had a value at somewhere near £20,000 and was producing an income of under £1,000. As of May 4, 1979, at the close of the Trust's fiscal year the Trust was valued at £43,674, and the 1978/79 income from investments and interest, was £2,292. Our contribution this year of \$13,000 will bring the value of the Trust up to close to £50,000. Our annual income will increase, but the purchasing power will not. At the Governors meeting on June 6, in Norwich, we learned from the Librarian's annual report that last year the monthly average borrowings from the American Memorial Room showed a continued increase, indicating the constantly growing interest and use by the people of Norfolk. However, the number of books purchased last year declined, the cost per

volume increased, and the number taken off the shelves due to age and condition increased.

Although there are several positive programs being conducted in Norwich by the British to raise funds locally to support the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust, you can see from the above that we still have a job ahead of us and your continued support will be very welcome.

We will continue to solicit your annual donations with your annual dues. In addition we invite you to make additional donations direct to the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division (that's how such checks should be made out) in memory of anyone close to you who was a casualty of war or peace, a service buddy or a friend or relative. In the next issue I will give specific details how these direct donations can be made, and we will reprint the various book-plates that can be used. If, in the meantime you want such information, or want to send a check (as Hank Tevelin did), please write to me in Dallas.

It was indeed gratifying to have the opportunity of thanking so many of you in person during our recent trip to Norwich. Let me repeat those thanks for the support of all of you.

Jordan R. Uttal

# 453rd BG REUNION REPORT & MORE

by Don Olds (453rd)

The 453rd's return to Norwich and Old Buckenham Airfield was enjoyed by all who made the journey, at least that's the feeling I brought home. I took some notes on various happenings and will pass them on to those of you who stayed behind.

The 453rd was housed at the Hotel Norwich and I can still see the little bartender in the lounge bar trying to close up and go home while our thirsty group gave him a hundred reasons for staying open. Usually within an hour or two he managed to close 'er up. On our last night in Norwich, Jim Kotapish borrowed 10 pounds from someone and intended to pay it back the next morning when the banks opened. Trouble is . . . the next morning he couldn't remember who he borrowed it from! That should tell you something about his last night in Norwich. Jim wants the person to please contact him so he can send them their money.



**ON THE MAIN RUNWAY AT OLD BUCKENHAM AIRFIELD. Back row left to right: Del Wangsvick, Milt Stokes, John Fiorillo, Bob Saugen, Junior Austin, Dan Reading, Don Olds, Andy Low, LeRoy Berg, Bob Wolfe, Lyman Crumrin, and Ed Limstrong. Front row left to right: John Cowger, Ed Myers, Herb Bradley and O.K. Long.**

For me, the highlights were the trip to the American Cemetery at Cambridge for the Memorial Day Service and our bus trip to Old Buckenham Airfield. I had a lump in my throat at both places. Surprising how many guys had never stood in the middle of the old main runway before. Not much remains of the airfield, the tower being demolished a couple of years ago. Some of the smaller buildings remain and most of those are inhabited by hogs. Attleborough remains much the same and the people are as friendly as ever.

The second week folks took off in different directions for sightseeing, etc. Jackie & Frank Thomas, along with Russ Harriman went to Sweden and visited with some of the people who had befriended them when their crew was forced to land in Sweden. O. K. &

Lovey Long went over to the continent as did John and Frances Cowger. Herb & Cynthia Bradley went over also but not before Herb made a stop at St. Andrews, Scotland for a game of golf. Dan & Muriel Reading visited Scotland and Ireland and Bob & Isabelle Victor and their daughter Barbara also went to Scotland. Ed & Evelyn Limstrong, Ed & Ramona Myers, Bob & Helen Wolfe and Milton, Lucille Stokes and their daughter Ginny took a bus tour to Scotland and stayed overnight in Edinburgh where my wife Mimi and I joined them along with some other couples from the 389th BG for a typical Scottish night out on the town. Some local girls did some traditional Scottish dances and even selected Ed Myers and Bob Wolfe as their partners for the dance. We didn't learn much about Scottish dances by watching Ed and Bob but we had a lot of fun. Where the rest of the folks went I don't know. They were heading out in all directions from Norwich.

As you might remember, Andy Low has been working on a group history for the past couple of years. It should be pretty well completed by now. Andy had some copies with him at Norwich that were only lacking a list of the 259 targets and dates of the group missions and a complete list of all the original crews of all four squadrons. In Norwich I gave Andy the target list plus an original crew list, one that was issued 30 Nov. 43. He was going to have them typed, photocopied and inserted in the booklet and by now they should be about ready to sell. I think he was hoping to get around \$4.00 for them to offset the cost of printing and hiring the girl to do all the typing. He assures us that any profit would go into the 453rd BG postage fund. So, if you think you might be interested in a group history, contact Andy and hopefully he'll be able to take care of you. His address is 6514 Walters Woods Drive, Falls Church, VA 22044.

A couple of newsletters back I asked for some help from you people in providing information on some missions to be included in the history that were not covered in much detail in the old squadron logs. I really had a good response and the material you guys sent was most welcome and useful. It was the first time I had asked for help and more than just one or two came to my aid. I'm hoping this trend will continue because without input from the membership I'm hurtin' for news to fill this quarterly column.

Now . . . we're still looking for a picture of 'WHAM BAM', the forma-

July 10, 1979

Dear Bill,

As a follow up to our great trip to Britain, Edie and I want to express our appreciation to the good people of the Second Air Division who allowed us to help with the travel arrangements of the group and especially to those individuals who utilized the good services of our office in planning tours, car rentals, hotels, etc.

We particularly want to thank Milt and Happy Veynar and Ed and Anita Goldsmith for working with the Pan-American Charter in Philadelphia and Chicago; Robert Boyle and Fred Venables for anchoring the two tours that we had in Britain and on the Continent; and a couple of people named Evelyn Cohen and Bill Robertie.

On behalf of all of these fine folks we are pleased to forward our check to Jordan Uttal in the amount of \$600.00 as a donation to the Capital Fund for the Norwich Memorial Library.

Sincerely,

Hank Tevelin  
Tevelin Travel Agency  
Personalized Travel Planning  
308 Bustleton Pike  
Feasterville, Pa. 19047  
667-5775 355-4050  
cc: Jordan Uttal

tion ship in the air. Does anyone have a shot of her flying? Also, does anybody have color photos of anything connected with the 453rd BG? I've seen color pictures from almost every other group but haven't seen any of the 453rd. We're getting a couple of photo albums filled and at the Cambridge reunion next year they'll be on display and what negatives we have will be available for loan. If you want to loan photos for the collection, send them to me and we'll copy them and return them to you as quickly as possible.

Del Wangsvick sent me an interesting article that appeared in the June '79 newsletter describing the mission to Brunswick on 8 April 44 when he rode in the nose of the lead airplane. That story inspired Al Soltau to send me his recollections of that mission from a different angle, as he was the tail gunner in that formation. So we got a story from the first guy over the target and one from the tail gunner in the last plane over the target. I'll pass on what Al had to say in the next newsletter.

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION

May 26, 1979

Thomas C. Eaton  
Chairman Board of Governors

It is unusual for the Chairman to submit a written report to the Annual Meeting of the Governors as the annual report of the Librarian combined with the financial statement normally provide an adequate summary of the events of the year under review. The year 1978/79, however, has been an important year in the history of the Trust and there is one matter, in particular, which ought to be recorded as of considerable significance in the development of the Trust. I refer, of course, to the Memorandum which was submitted by the Governors to the Cultural Attaché at the American Embassy, London, in March 1979.

The importance of the Memorandum derives from the work of research, consultation and discussion carried out by the Governors with the 2nd Air Division Association, the Charity Commissioners and others over a period of five years or more.

As a result the Governors have been able to make constructive suggestions to the representatives of the American Government in Great Britain and to put forward proposals as to how the work of the Trust could be developed in the future for the benefit of the people living in the area where the 2nd Air Division was based, and in accordance with the terms of the Trust agreed with the Charity Commissioners and the 2nd Air Division Association.

Thus, for the first time in the history of the Trust, it is possible to specify particular fields of activities and interest which can involve individuals, both American and British and which, over the years, will enable succeeding generations to be actively identified with the work of the Trust in both cultural and educational fields.

To that end, at a meeting with the Executive Committee of the 2nd Air Division Association held in Norwich on Monday, 4th June the following policy was agreed for the next twelve months

1. Priority will be given to discussions with the new Cultural Attaché on the Memorandum submitted
2. The County Librarian will explore in detail the arrangements for employing an interne Librarian. In particular in conjunction with a Libraries School at one of the American Universities and the U.S.A.
3. The 2nd Air Division Association will

### SAVINGS FUND ACCOUNT

Balance July 12, 1978	\$ 1,487.31
Receipts: Interest for 9 months	<u>56.48</u>
No Disbursements	
Receipts and Balance as of May 28, 1979	1,543.79

### MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND ACCOUNT

Balance July 12, 1978	14,809.82
Receipts to May 28, 1979 Donations	<u>10,587.00</u>
Receipts and Balance	25,396.82
Disbursement to Library Board Aug. 5, 1978	<u>14,170.00</u>
Balance May 28, 1979	11,226.82

### GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance July 12, 1978		7,004.98
Receipts: Membership Dues	24,164.25	
Sales: Memorial Brochures	49.00	
Tie Tacs & Pins	39.00	
Decals	73.00	
Misc. Cols—San Diego	9.53	
Int.—Current Sav. Fund	<u>284.92</u>	
Receipts and Balance		31,624.66

Disbursements:		
Newsletter: Honorarium	200.00	
Expenses—10 months	1,830.10	
Printing & Envelopes	753.66	
Printing 4 Newsletters	4,765.90	
Postage—Newsletters	5,600.00	
Extra Help Newsletters	<u>1,189.00</u>	14,338.66
Membership: Honorarium	200.00	
Printing	259.58	
Postage	<u>1,275.00</u>	1,734.58
Group V.P. — Postage Expense	465.00	
Photography at San Diego	105.68	
Flash for Robertie's Camera	68.93	
Claim Settlement on Books shipped to 2AD in 1975	<u>846.90</u>	1,486.51
Total Disbursements General Fund		17,559.75
Balance May 28, 1979		14,064.93

Money Donated for purchase of books at San Diego		
Books not purchased to date		<u>1,110.00</u>

Balance of Cash on Hand, All Funds, as of May 28, 1979 \$27,945.54

### Donations to Library Board as of May 28, 1979

1973	\$ 1,293.00
1974	2,322.00
1975	8,000.00
1976	6,000.00
1977	5,215.00
1978	<u>14,170.00</u>
Total to date	\$37,000.00

Dean E. Moyer, Treasurer  
2nd AD Association

appoint from within their Association named individuals skilled and qualified in such matters as Librarianship, Book selection and audio/visual aids with the object of improving and expanding present arrangements.

4. There will be another meeting at Cambridge, Mass. in July 1980 to review the previous twelve months and to agree on policy for the next twelve months. It is hoped that several of the Governors will be able to

attend the 1980 Convention in the U.S.A.

5. It is intended that there will be, in the future, at least one meeting each year between representatives of the Governors and the Executive Committee of the 2nd Air Division Association to review the past twelve months and to discuss what could be done in the succeeding twelve months. Such a meeting would follow a similar meeting with the Embassy.

It is recognized that it is unlikely there will be any major developments achieved quickly, while in any event it is better that any changes and increased activity should evolve naturally over a period of years after full discussion with all interested parties. In the words of the song "Doing what comes naturally" is the basis for the future. Meanwhile, the 2nd A.D.A. through the Journal will make known to its members the needs of the Library and ways in which individuals or businesses could help from time to time.

It is, however, worth recording that the submission of the Memorandum to the Cultural Attaché does open a new chapter in the development of the Trust, and for all who are stimulated by ideas and ways in which the Trust can serve the community of Norwich and Norfolk, the future should offer many opportunities.

Finally, to the members of the 2nd Air Division Association as well as to the public generally, I would emphasize the importance of what is written in the last paragraph of the Memorandum namely:—

"The Governors believe that if the ideals which inspired this Memorial are to be kept in the forefront of English speaking peoples it would be beneficial for a working partnership to be created with the American Government. We, the Governors, who are friends of America and Americans, live and work in a part of England from which so many of the Pilgrim Fathers came. Historically, as well as morally, it must be right to maintain and develop a Library and a Memorial that reminds us of so much that is our joint heritage, and which seeks to remind succeeding generations of what we owe to each other."

I hope it will be possible for that paragraph to be printed in full in the Journal and in other publications. It epitomizes our philosophy.

## HALESWORTH REVISITED: WHERE DID MY HARDSTAND GO?

Charles Freudenthal (489th)

Halesworth, as I've said before, has changed; but there is still a lot there to reach out and grab you. Turkey farm or no turkey farm, the runways still stretch out in front of you, crumbling here and there to be sure, but solid enough for at least a few more B24 touchdowns. Most of the buildings you need to help you get oriented have gone. Practically everything around the perimeter road and flight line areas have been torn down, so it isn't easy to get a handle on things. The place is losing the battle for existence, but it isn't giving up easily.

There were six of us there on June 4th, trying to find some identifiable link to the 1944 days. Memories are pretty tricky after 35 years, but just driving around Perimeter road and up and down the runways started to bring things into focus. We had a 1944 vertical photo of the base with us, and that was really a Godsend in helping us to get oriented.

The biggest break, though, was meeting Mr. Bedser again. He has lived in and farmed the area since the early days of the war, and still lives right along the road that runs from the 844th area past the Combat mess to the line. You must have seen his thatched-roof home almost every day. Mr. Bedser turned out to be our best link. He knew where everything had been, and really got us straightened out. And he gave each of us a bottle of SKAT insect repellent, left behind when the Group pulled out in December 1944. Wonder if it will work any better now that it has a little age on it?



L to R: Bob Boyle, Mr. Bedser, John Brody, Bud Chamberlain, standing where Group Admin. used to be.

The day we were there, incidentally, was the 35th anniversary of the 489th's fourth mission. Twenty-three aircraft bombed a hotel in Le Toque, believed to be a high-level headquarters for the German ground forces. Major Lohela (847th) was the Command Pilot, and re-

sults were "good." None of us remembered.

Even in Norwich strange things happen. Times Square isn't the only place where you're bound to see people you know. We came into the lobby one afternoon and found Don Weinberger, ex-Club and Mess officer there. Seems he and his wife Betty were on vacation, had heard about the reunion, so came by to see who they could find. Well, they found ten of us, stayed long enough to swap a few stories, then went on their way rejoicing — we think! I mailed his membership application this morning, which should bring us up to around 130.



Halesworth Station. Platform for London on the right.

And still in Norwich, but not so strange — as everybody knows, a dose of nostalgia mixed with either Scotch or English gin produces some sort of music. And so it was in Norwich, but there wasn't enough stimulant there (or in all of England) to get any of us past the first four lines of this:

"Oh, I'll meet you tonight o'er the  
buncher,  
About ten thousand feet in the blue.  
I'll have the prop on number four  
feathered,  
And oil streaming out of number two."

or this; from the 100th mission party:  
Over Pas de Calais and over Buncher 8  
We're up in the A.M., 'cause we've got  
a date.

And with Nape still around  
The lid will stay on,  
WE ARE THE 489TH!

(Tom O'Brien? Carl? Pop? Anybody?)

Oh yes; some things don't change. On our way back to Norwich we got thrown out of the Triple Plea. I still don't like their beer!

# WELCOME VISITORS FROM AMERICA

(from Eastern Daily Press)

A clear sky over Norwich and above the city formations of B24 Liberator bombers were grouping into position for another daylight raid on Germany. The deep drone of hundreds of engines filled the air. Once again the might, strength and courage of the United States Second Air Division, Eighth Army Air Force was being demonstrated — the time was 1944.

From the fields of corn and barley those lumbering four-engined bombers rose from the Norfolk soil. They were manned by young men, brash, excitable and full of life; they carried the war to the enemy and we could only stand and watch these great aerial armadas as they winged their way out towards the East Anglian coast — and to their destiny.

"Witchcraft," "Picadilly Lilly," "Eight Ball," "Sockem Joe" — these were some of the names painted on their fusilages. They came from Rackheath, Metfield, Seething, Bungay, Hethel, Shipdham, Tibenham, Horsham St. Faith, Attlebridge and many other places with names of quiet Norfolk and Suffolk villages that became synonymous with "Little America." The Liberators and the Flying Fortress heavy bombers became as familiar to the Norfolk and Suffolk countrymen as hedgerows and oak trees.

Over 6000 of those young men of the 2nd Air Division never came back. The airfields they flew from are now poultry farms, fields of corn, decaying Nissen huts and windowless flying control towers.



The memory they left us is imperishable. Some of those who survived, grey haired now and full of memories, are back among us as the 2nd Air Division Association get together for their 1979 reunion at Norwich — the "Yanks," the original "GIs."

We salute these gallant men. We say welcome back and please come again — and may you find in the Norfolk countryside a quiet joy and peace you nobly fought for 35 years ago.

JOHN WRIGHT  
GEOFFREY GOREHAM  
Lavengro Road,  
Mousehold Avenue, Norwich.

The Lord Mayor of Norwich,  
Councillor Mrs. V. Gutsman

My Dear Lord Mayor:

Please forgive me for not writing sooner to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for the hospitality and warmth our Second Air Division Association members enjoyed during our stay in your fair city. Almost without exception, the greatest portion of our number were indeed sorry to leave your country on June 16, 1979.

This was our (my wife Ceil and myself) 5th visit to England and our 4th since I left the airfield at Horsham St. Faith in the summer of 1945. I never for one moment dreamt that I might someday return and be honored as President of the Second Air Division Association. Our entire group was most pleased by the total acceptance of the people of Norwich and of its surrounding towns and villages. It is my personal belief that no matter how difficult it may be in future years to move 500 or more people from America to England, we shall find a way to celebrate our past great moments. It will somehow be done and we shall return again and again because our members will want to re-live the many pleasant memories that will continue to hold a tender spot in their hearts.

On June 13, 1963, the City of Norwich and its people participated in the opening of the Second Air Division, U.S.A.A.F. Memorial Room of the Norwich Central Library. Since that date, we have been partners in our "Living Memorial" that honors our lost comrades. We have found it to be a great partnership and it is our utmost desire that this relationship continue long after WE have "folded our wings".

Again, my personal thanks to you, the members of your staff and all the fine people of Norwich who have been so kind to us. We shall never forget your courtesies and look forward to our next visit.

Sincerely,

E. A. Rokicki  
Past President,  
Second Air Division Association

## ATTENTION EIGHTBALLERS

In between milking cows and preparing for harvest, I'm working flat out to finish the second volume of *The Mighty Eighth*. I have two problems someone from the 44th might be able to solve for me.

First, I hope to reproduce the insignia of the 44th AND its four squadrons in color. The 67th is the only unit with a wartime approved badge, but the others probably had unapproved badges. So, do any of you have drawings, or photographs, of the 44th's squadron insignia? I am really looking for color reproductions as this will save me a lot of work. Otherwise a black and white reproduction with details of the colors will suffice. I also require a good representation of the 44th "Eight Ball" insignia in color. Everything you send will be copied and returned.

My second request is — does anyone have a plan of Shipdham which shows the hardstand numbers? All assistance will be appreciated and acknowledged.

Roger A. Freeman  
May's Barn  
Dedham, Colchester  
Essex, CO7 6EW,  
England

(ed: For faster and safer handling you can send your material to me at P.O. Drawer B, Ipswich, Mass. 01938.



## NORWICH LIBRARY'S AMERICAN ROOM 'UNIQUE MEMORIAL'

(from Eastern Daily Press)

The importance of the American Memorial Room at Norwich central library as a link between nations was highlighted at a meeting in the city today.

More than 450 Americans of the 2nd Air Division (8th US Air Force) Association are in Norwich for a reunion and most of them packed the City Hall council chamber for the association's annual meeting.

They were welcomed by the Lord Mayor, Mrs. Valerie Guttman, who said: "The links between Norwich, indeed East Anglia, and the US Air Force 2nd Air Division are extremely important not only in order to keep issues alive but as a symbol of deep friendships between nations."

"It is through friendship and understanding that conflicts can be avoided."



Members of the 2nd Air Division Association pictured in Norwich City Hall where they were invited by the Lord Mayor of Norwich, Mrs. Valerie Guttman (second left). In the group (left to right) are, Bill Robertie, vice-president newsletter; Evelyn Cohen, vice-president membership; Rick Rokicki (seated), president; Hathy Veynar, secretary, and Pete Henry, executive vice-president.

Mrs. Guttman said that the American room at the library, paid for by the 2nd Air Division in memory of the American pilots who flew from Norfolk airfields into battle and never returned,

was a unique memorial which inspired many people.

The association has brought with it to Norwich the fulfilment of a pledge made at the last reunion in the city four years ago. This was to raise £25,000 to add to the capital of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust — income from which buys books for the memorial room.

Chairman of the trust governors, Mr. Tom Eaton, said that the decision to raise the extra money had far-reaching implications, as it refurbished the whole project.

He had written to the Cultural Attache at the American Embassy in London suggesting that responsibility for maintaining American interest in and support for the trust should be transferred from the office of air attache to that of cultural attache.

"We have said to the cultural attache it is time that the American Embassy and Government started to realize the potential of this trust," he said.

Possibility of this link was taken up by county librarian Mr. D. P. Mortlock, who said he hoped it might bring about the opportunity for a young American librarian to work in the memorial room on an intern basis.

The first event for the Americans was a "get-together" buffet at Blackfriars' Hall, Norwich.

## B-24 JEWELRY



Leroy J. Engdahl still has a supply of his B-24 Jewelry available as pictured above. From left to right the woman's necklace is \$5.00, the paper weight or shelf ornament is \$12.00 and the tie tack is \$5.00. Leroy pays postage and a portion goes to the Memorial Library Trust Fund. Send your order to Leroy J. Engdahl, 1785 Wexford Drive, Vidor, TX. 77662.

## Reprint of 'LIBERATORS OVER EUROPE' 44th BG

A limited edition of this book about the 44th Bomb Group and its activities in the big one now being printed by Arthur Hand and will be available in September 1979. This book was first published right after the war and is full of photos of the men and machines. If you missed it at that time now you have the opportunity to catch up.

Send \$18.00 - plus \$1.00 to cover postage and handling - to Arthur Hand, 517 Elm Street, Paris, Illinois 61944. Illinois residents please add sales tax.

## SEETHING TRIP STIRS MEMORIES

(from Eastern Daily Press)

Among the many fliers at the Seething Air Show on Sunday were a group of men who knew the airfield in its heyday as a bomber base and flew missions in Liberators over Germany.

The group, all ex-USAAF members of the old 448th Bomber Group, were on a reunion trip to some of their wartime East Anglia haunts, and they were quick to spot, in the Waveney Flying Group's clubhouse, a photograph which transported them in memory right back to wartime Seething.



Some promptly recognized themselves among the airmen lined up in front of a Liberator.

The cheerful group shown studying the photographs are, left to right, Mr. Leroy Engdahl, of Vidor, Texas, who vividly recalls the celebrations on May 11th, 1944, when he completed his tour of missions with 713 Squadron, 448th Bomber Group; Mr. Frank Gibson (obscured at rear), of Long Beach, California, who was a pilot with 714 Squadron, completing his tour on June 5th, 1944; Mr. Walt Smith (in glasses), of Houston, Texas, a former staff sergeant air mechanic in charge of ground crew; Col. Downey L. Thomas, of Long Beach, former lead pilot with 715 Squadron; and Mr. George Dupont, of Miami Springs, a former sergeant air mechanic with 712 Squadron who has since had long experience as a flight manager of Boeing 727s.

The group enjoyed their visit to Seething and among their memories, happy and sad, were vivid recollections of April 22nd 1944, when German fighters harried the Liberators on the return journey from a raid on Hamburg and shot them up as they were preparing to land at Seething.



Anyone remember the Maids Head Hotel?



Bill Robertie finally 'pins' Lady Mayhew.



The receiving line at the Castle Buffet minus one around trying to get into position. They made it!



Hank and Edie Tevelin plus Karen Wolf and Lillian Cohen enjoy buffet lunch at the home of Mrs. Barne.



Our Jeader Evelyn Cohen. Who else!



Vickie Warning hits high 'C' in her audition for the Norwich Opera. Coach Pete Henry urges her higher, ever higher.



Lord Colman and Jordan Uttal enjoy a drink together.



Arvin and Audrey Irish (44th B.G.) became grandparents for the first time while touring Switzerland after the 2ADA reunion in Norwich.



Mike Bailey caught in the act. Eating of course. What else? Our exalted leader's feelings of all of long journey across



Local residents who helped Mrs. Barne wave goodbye to the wives as they take their leave after lunch at her estate.



Lady Mayhew (center) 86 years young and one of the original Governors of the Trust shares dinner with unknown member, left, and Jackie Hanify — 26 years young!



Lillian Cohen lays flowers on Robert Savage, at the cemetery.



us our President and his wife who were racing  
de it!



Joyce and Jordan Uttal finally arrive.  
None the worse for wear.



Cambridge Cemetery. Eternal peace for so many.



Emma and Al Franklin prove that you  
can attend each and every reunion. They  
have yet to miss one.



Mary and Pete Henry find his signature  
in Red Cross book from June 26, 1944.



General (Andy) leads sing-a-long coming home, "Roll me  
over . . ." with Jackie Thomas recording all of it.



leader mirrors the  
all of us after our  
across the pond.



Roger Freeman fills his mind  
with facts and figures for yet  
another book.



Hazel and Bill Robertie struggle with the  
latest in camera equipment. The old  
black box was better — and easier!



Bob Dubowsky, Al Jones, Pete Henry, Chas. Hughes and  
'Red' Hand get together again for the first time in 35  
years. Chas. was Squadron C.O. of this 'motley' crew.



s on grave of family friend, Lt.  
emetery.



Jordan and Joyce Uttal join Rick Rokicki upon arrival at  
the Nelson.



As tables and chairs were scarce at the Castle Buffet, it  
was wherever you could find a spot. Lower right is  
Charlie Freudenthal. Third up from the bottom of the  
stairs is Art Cullen enjoying meal with Karen Wolf.

# Norwich and the 445th. . . .

by Dave Patterson (445th BG)

By now, by word of mouth and by this Newsletter, you have undoubtedly heard about the great, best-ever Reunion, at Norwich, England. Fine accommodations, excellent program of events, near-perfect planning and execution by our Association's "front office" group — all made for a superb five days.

Perhaps some special remembrances — some serious, some humorous — would round out the stories you have heard or will read in this Newsletter. . . .

. . . Our chartered Pan Am 707, on arrival at England (after 7+ hours of non-stop flying from Philadelphia), patiently circling *at tree top level* (what a delightful way to see the British countryside — close up, yet!!) around Mildenhall U.S. Air Force Base, waiting for the AF tower controller to let us enter the pattern for landing: he had several local AF jets practicing "touch-and-go" landings, and we had to wait our turn. (We old AF types kinda got a kick out of that — those fly-boys had to get their landings in, to earn this month's flight pay — right?!! Remember when we were in their shoes??!!).

. . . Our tour of our old air base at Tibenham, led by one of our Associate members of our Association, Kenneth Fox from Norwich. Although the runways are still intact, as is most of the perimeter taxiway, most of the base has been converted to farming. Almost all the buildings have been removed; what are left, including the old HQ quonset complex, and the all-concrete super-secret HQ Communications building, are being used for housing dairy cows, hay,

and farm implements. Most of the hardstand areas, as well as the former living areas, are now grain fields. Our host, Ken Fox, had been with the British Air Ministry, attached to the 445th at Tibenham, during most of WWII (as he puts it "having applied, and waiting eagerly to be called for RAF flight training!"). Ken, in preparation for our visit, had put much effort and time in re-familiarizing himself with the base; he gathered information from the RAF, from Norfolk County historical data, and from the Imperial War Museum in order to best host us. And what a tremendous job he did! From all the 445th, we say "thanks, Ken!"

. . . And on our tour of the Tibenham base, our WW II Air Executive Officer, Paul Schwartz, wading through the cow bedding and the cow you-know-what, cajoling Bossy and Bessy, and etc. to move aside so he could see his old office in the once secret HQ Communications building — now a cow "palace". (And the wise cracks by some of our group, like "its as deep now as it used to be!", and "the Staff looks the same, Paul, — how did you ever get anything accomplished with *that* group of associates?!").

. . . The quiet patience in which our wives endured our WW II stories (having heard them for the emptyumph time!); and their delight with the beauty and warmth of Norwich and Norfolk, of both the places and the people. "Five days wasn't nearly enough time!" I heard repeated and repeated. . . .

. . . The impressive receiving line at Norwich Castle, with all the ladies and men of the Association in their formal

best; in which we were presented to the Lord Mayor of Norwich, and other dignitaries. We were loudly announced, in a grand manner, by a page dressed in traditional old English garb, at which time each husband and wife stepped briskly across the large room to present themselves to the dignitaries — like knights about to be knighted. . . .

. . . The dungeon at the same Castle, used in ancient times as a jail; a black hole of separate rooms with chains, torture devices, but with no plumbing, no lighting, no heating, no windows — way down deep in the earth out of sight and sound of the world. Damp, dank, and utter darkness . . . One chuckles when we hear today's jail inmates pleading inhuman treatment if their coffee isn't served on time. . . .

. . . The warmth and genuine hospitality and friendliness of the British as they welcomed us one and all — like long lost friends. (And a "long lost" American friend turned up! Ed Chalifoux, of the 462nd Sub-Depot, attached to the 445th during WW II, lives in the Norwich area, and he and his wife joined our festivities.)

. . . The stirring visit to the U.S. Military Cemetery at Cambridge for Memorial Day services: watching the placing of wreaths of honor by U.S. and British leaders, representing organizations as mighty as the U.S. 3rd Air Force, and as humble but as inspiring as the local Cub Scout Pack . . . Seeing the plain white grave markers, each with the name of a U.S. serviceman killed in action. Listed on each marker was the individual's wartime unit . . . many marked "445th Bomb Group". . . .

## THE TOURIST'S PRAYER

submitted by Mona Myers

*Heavenly Father, look down on us your humble, obedient tourist servants who are doomed to travel this earth, taking photographs, mailing postcards, buying souvenirs and walking around in drip-dry underwear. We beseech you, O Lord, to see that our plane is not hijacked, our luggage not lost, and our overweight baggage goes unnoticed.*

*Give us this day divine guidance in our selection of hotels. We pray that the phones work, the operators speak our tongue, that there is no mail waiting from our children which would force us to cancel the rest of our trip.*

*Lead us to good, inexpensive restaurants where the wine is included in the price of the meal. Give us the wisdom to tip correctly in currencies we do not understand. Make the natives love us for what we are and not for what we can contribute to their worldly goods.*

*Grant us the strength to visit the museums, the cathedrals,*

*the palaces and if, perchance, we skip an historic monument to take a nap after lunch, have mercy on us for our flesh is weak.*

*Dear God, protect our wives from "bargains" they don't need or can't afford. Lead them not into temptation for they know not what they do.*

*Almighty Father, keep our husbands from looking at foreign women and comparing them to us. Save them from making fools of themselves in nightclubs. Above all, please do not forgive them their trespasses for they know exactly what they do.*

*And when our voyage is over, grant us the favor of finding someone who will look at our home movies and listen to our stories, so our lives as tourists will not have been in vain. This we ask you in the name of Conrad Hilton, Thomas Cook, and American Express. Amen.*

## AMERICAN VETERANS BACK IN NORFOLK

(from Eastern Daily Press)

About 350 jet-lagged Americans had a "get-together" buffet at Blackfriars Hall, Norwich, last night as the first event in the 2nd Air Division (8th US Air Force) Association reunion.

Over 400 Americans — ex-airmen and their wives — are in the city for a program packed with events including nostalgic coach trips to old wartime airfields in the area.

They arrived in this country, some travelling by charter flight to Mildenhall, others on scheduled flights to London, coaches bringing them to Norwich.

Many had been in the city before — but for some it was a chance to meet fellow airmen they had not seen since the war.



Members of the 2nd Air Division Association pictured at their "get-together" buffet. Standing in the foreground (left to right) are Dave Patterson, Vice President 445th Bomber Group; Rick Rokicki, Association President; Evelyn Cohen, Vice President, Membership; and Pete Henry, Executive Vice President.

## 458th IN NORWICH

by George A. Reynolds (458th)

Would you believe balmy Norwich '79? Yep, temps in the 80s and humidity in the 90s. But our English friends said it was never warm in Britain, so it must have been the hospitality, and our delegation really soaked it up. The reunion went along at a leisurely pace this time with ample opportunity to "just visit," sightsee and enjoy a renewal of an individual's own "nine yards." All that sunshine didn't hurt the photo business either. In fact, anyone in the association owning Kodak stock should send a thank you note to Charlie Aillet down in "Laff-e-et," La.

In keeping with a newly established policy to elect or re-elect Group vice presidents every couple of years, we met to decide on one. After an "open floor" discussion and nominations, Rick Rokicki was unanimously chosen to serve the next term. Rick was a capable 2nd ADA president over the past year, and has been executive vice president one term. He has proven that his part as leader will be done. Now, each member and associate should actively support him by contacting any known ex-458th type for membership. Attrition takes a yearly toll, and without some new blood coming in for continued growth, it's "fadeawayitis" for sure. One other unanimity — our thanks to Clint Wallace for his work over the past four years.

AFS-123 is changing, but slowly, primarily by new additions going up adjacent to the main gate area. All runways are intact except the N-S, which is badly

deteriorated, and will be completely removed. The perimeter track is still there, but some of the lesser taxiways are gone, and the hardstands are going. Hangars (all five) are used by private industry, mostly small manufacturing concerns. And the control tower is essentially unchanged. However, the cab has been raised some to make room for equipment additions, like radar, to handle an increasing traffic load.

Old living quarters and administrative buildings are in use as housing for college students. The EM Consolidated Mess is in a very poor state of repair, but will be renovated, in time, for useage similar to that of other structures. One final comment on the old . . . the Combat Officer's Mess could host a church social without a moment's prior notice. Now *that* is change!

A new terminal building is going up in the early 80s just beyond the westernmost perimeter track. In this regard, FOTE did an excellent job in erecting a 458th memorial in the present terminal building. And in our limited time, it was evident that the display draws considerable interest from transients. Further, "Buck" Courtney (airport manager and retired Group Captain, RAF) has promised all-out effort to provide more space in the new facility for a permanent memorial. Additional material will make it more presentable and interesting. So consider those wartime mementos collecting dust or yellowing that would be suitable for display (medals, patches,

## AMERICANS ON AIR BASE VISIT

(from Eastern Daily Press)

Ex-U.S. Airmen swapped the speed and power of the Liberator aircraft for Eastern Counties bus when they travelled along the runway at Hethel airfield today.

Former members of the 389th group of the 2nd Air Division (8th U.S. Army Air Force) were making a ground attack on their old wartime base as part of today's program for the 450 association members staying in Norwich.

The runway is now Lotus Cars test drive circuit and the control tower a social club, and several of today's visitors were seeing them for the first time since the war.



A stroll down memory runway, as the former members of the American Air Division visit their wartime base, at Hethel, today.

One had brought his son along with him to show him his old wartime base.

The bus to Hethel also took in Tibenham and Old Buckenham airfields and Ketteringham Hall, the headquarters of the 2nd Air Division. Other buses took ex-airmen to airfields throughout Norfolk.

Visiting old bases was not the only nostalgia trip for the Americans. During their time in Norwich they have looked up old pubs and gone dancing at the Samson and Hercules Ballroom.

Yesterday about 400 visited the aircraft museum at Duxford and the American Cemetery at Madingley, near Cambridge.

certificates, etc.) when the call goes out to the membership. Norwich most assuredly hasn't forgotten the 458th in the last 35 years, but there's no sense in chancing it for the next 35.

We would be remiss without a note of thanks from our crowd to the association officers who worked very hard to make Norwich '79 a success. Mission accomplished — it was great!

# SHIPDHAM REVISITED — AGAIN

by Pete Henry (44th BG)

Approximately 20 nostalgia seeking 8-ballers bused to Shipdham on Monday, 4 June 1979 but the Hands, Joneses, Franklins and Henrys were not part of the group. For one reason and another, we had to postpone our visit until 6 June and it really turned into a gala occasion.

We rented a 12-passenger mini-bus for our tour around the Southern part of England after the reunion so we used this means of transportation to convey the four couples to Station 113. 'Red' Hand and Al Jones were part of Henry's crew and Al Franklin, also 44th, has become a fast friend since we both joined the 2 ADA in 1973.

The first stop on this memorable day was at Frost Row Farm near Hingham about five miles southeast of Shipdham as the B-24 flies. Reportedly, the house was built before Columbus discovered America and has been in the Bart family 55 years. It is a "Listed Building" in England. That is, it is of historical interest and repairs can be made provided the original structure is not changed.



Bart House

The younger members of the Bart family (Mr. and Mrs. Bart passed away several years ago) still live and work the farm and they were eagerly awaiting the return visit of Henry's crew after more than 34 years. We used to ride our bicycles down to the farm for an occasional meal, eggs, strawberries, and a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner back in November 1944.

We buzzed the farm, on occasion, rattling a few tiles and more than one of Mrs. Bart's dishes were broken during the 'attacks'. It is rumored that young Herb Bart flew with us on a practice mission to The Wash, and even dropped one of the bombs but you know that never happened. It was against the rules! Mary (Bart) Carson had baked a cake for us and we stayed long enough to have a piece with a cup of tea before heading on up to Shipdham.

Our first stop in Shipdham was at the Golden Dog Pub to see Flo who had opened the Pub before hours when

we visited her four years ago. We discovered that Flo retired about two weeks earlier and would not be in until later in the day. We sampled the brew being served by the new owners, left an 8-ball name tag for Flo to show her we had been there and continued on our merry way.

Next stop was the barracks area of the 66th Squadron, 67th Squadron, 506th Squadron, 68th Squadron, 14th Combat Wing? Nobody was certain which but we clamored through every building looking for anything we could find to bring back those 'glory-days'. Mr. J. E. Rix is still the owner and we stopped to say hello, first, and get his permission to ramble over the area. We found many of the murals on the walls still in good condition but one, our favorite, "Hey Paw", is gradually disappearing. The roof above it is disintegrating and it is now exposed to the elements.



"HEY PAW ..."

When we had satisfied ourselves that we had seen everything that could be seen, we proceeded to the airfield and 'captured' the control tower. It, too, is crumbling with age but sturdy enough to hold the six or eight of us who climbed up on the roof for a better look at the field. There is no need to describe the field. You saw exactly the same condition in the prologue of the movie, 'Twelve O'Clock High'. The runways, taxi strips, hardstands are still there but the grass has grown up between the cracks in the cement and they look like green and grey patchwork quilts.

There is a chemical fertilizer plant operating on the end of the field near the control tower and a small commercial airline (more about this later) operating off of one of the short runways on the far side of the field. We obtained permission from one of the chemical plant workmen to drive our mini-bus out on the field and we drove from one end of the main runway to the other. We imagined we could still see that row of trees and fencing coming ever closer at the west end and will this ship ever get airborne?

We were advised by letter 4 May

1979 from Felix Dunagan, my former crew chief, how to find the dispersal point or finishing point of our mission. "Go to the control tower, face the field and to your left around the perimeter track, past the main runway, until you come to the only dispersal point with a farm house right over the fence and that is it." This wasn't exactly the easiest thing to do because the perimeter track wasn't open all the way around but, by one road or another, we located our hardstand.

But before we get into that part of the story, let me tell you about the short runway, 30. While riding up and down the main runway, trying to find the perimeter, we headed up runway 30 expecting to at least find a way over to the farmhouse and our old dispersal area. My wife spotted some runway lights along the edge of the runway and we pulled over to the side thinking we had found some 35-year old souvenirs. All of a sudden, we discovered that these were new runway lights, permanent fixtures, and looked up just in time to see a small plane taking off from the other end. It was airborne long before it reached us, but you can bet we cleared that runway in a hurry.

By this time, we discovered a road to the farmhouse and drove around to the entrance. Mrs. E. Paterson was coming out of the barn with a handful of eggs when we descended upon her. After explaining our mission, she took me to the area where 'Henry' had been berthed and even pointed out the area on the ground where the hardstand ended and the new driveway had been added. Her husband (passed away several years ago) built a new barn on the hardstand.



'Henry's' finishing point.

Mrs. Paterson said that her husband was the son of the former owner and we later learned from someone else that the Shipdham airfield was part of the old Paterson farmland. She also informed us that her sister married a member of the 44th Bomb Group, Frank Scigulinski, and they now live in Westfield, Mass. We will send photographs of our visit to the Scigulinskis and invite Frank to join the 2ADA.

We bid Mrs. Paterson farewell, promising to write to her sister, and, reluctantly, departed Station 113, Shipdham, Thetford, Norfolk, England. Will it be revisited again in the future?

# We cannot forget

by Paul King

I have found these past few days some of the most pleasurable and rewarding of my life, being able as I have to meet so many wonderful members of your Association over here for your annual convention.

You have been here not only to visit your old air bases, but to honor those of your colleagues who, in the words of your late President, John F. Kennedy, "sacrificed their lives in the defense of freemen everywhere".

I am at the age of 39 the youngest Governor of the Memorial Trust Library, but I still vividly recall hearing at the age of three or four the drone of two or three thousand of your aircraft in the sky above, airborne on their way to their missions over enemy territory. Because of you, and because of the sacrifices you and the Allied Forces made in the Second World War, I, my contemporaries and our children live today. I have often heard my Dutch born wife, Hester, speak of the joy of her family at the end of the war of seeing your airplanes and those of the R.A.F. dropping bread over German occupied Rotterdam and Holland, where many of the population had been surviving for a year on tulip bulbs and morsels of food.

I have been saddened by Evelyn Cohen telling me on several occasions that this present Convention will be the last one to be held in Norwich. It surely cannot be. I fully appreciate the tremendous workload and burden which Evelyn has in organizing your Conventions in such an outstanding way, and I only hope that she can be persuaded to organize future visits here in the years to come.

We, the younger generation, simply must not forget or be allowed to forget past and glorious history. It is up to us to see that your exploits in the defense of freedom are never forgotten.

## Are You Delinquent?

A short while ago Evelyn sent notices (2nd) to those who had not paid their dues. While many responded to this nudge we still have some members who are delinquent. This will be the last JOURNAL we will be able to send to those who have not paid their 1979 dues. We will still carry those who are not able to pay their dues because of money or health problems, but if you can pay, please do.

## LIBERATOR ALBUM VOLUME 1 THE 20th C.B.W.

by Tony North and Mike Bailey

A 48-page photo album, the first of 4 volumes on the 2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force, containing over 80 high quality photos, many published for the first time, of B-24's of the 93rd, 446th, 448th & 489th Bomb Groups.

With full color front cover and centre-spread depicting representative aircraft from these groups, accurately drawn and finely detailed, by Mike Bailey

A privately published, limited edition obtainable from: Tony North, 9, Irving Road, Norwich, NR4 6RA. Price £4.50 (Inc. post).

U.S. orders to: Bob Ludwig, 16, Silver Lane, Burnt Hills, New York 12027. Price \$9.50 (incl. surface mail from U.K.).

In preparation: — Volume 2. The 14th C.B.W. (44th B.G., 392nd B.G., 491st B.G., & 492nd B.G.).



During the past few days my wife and I have had the pleasure of meeting some younger delegates, Kurt and Vicki Warning. I understand Vicki's father, Bill Brooks, was a Past President of your Convention. We have met Virginia ("Ginger") Stokes, the charming daughter of Milton and Lucille Stokes. We are agreed that it is our duty to see that the amazing spirit of this Convention in Norwich is kept alive. I believe that the Memorial Library could be the focal point and that we could in the future form a body of friends of the Memorial Library. Relations, friends and associates of those who fell or served in the 2nd Air Division will, I am sure, always want to visit this area, steeped in the history of the exploits of the Division.

The present stage in the development of the Memorial Library reminds me of the words of Winston Churchill, speaking in another context (the North African Campaign), when he said:—

*"This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end but it is,*

*perhaps, the end of the beginning."*

We are, I believe, on the verge of a new and progressive era in the Library's history, which has been made even more certain and secure by the outstanding generosity of your members, who have raised an additional 50,000 dollars to further endow the Memorial Trust. I am determined and convinced that we shall succeed in furthering the cause of the Library. We are determined people in Norfolk. There is an old Norfolk rhyme which runs as follows:—

*"If it rain or if it snow - keep a goin'  
If it hail, or if it blow - keep a goin'  
'Teernt no use t'set an whine  
'cause a fish ee'rnt on yar line,  
bait yar hook an' keep a tryin' - keep a goin'."*

We young ones simply must "keep a goin'" to ensure that the sacrifice which your fellow countrymen made for us may, in the words of John F. Kennedy inscribed on the dedication plaque at the Memorial Room on the 13th June 1963, "continue to strengthen the bonds of friendship between our two nations, allies past and present, against tyranny. May it also inspire us to pursue with energy and patience the opportunities for securing peace with justice preserved for us by those whose memorial we dedicate today."

I know from all that has been expressed by local people over these last few days that our love and regard for you is as great as it has ever been. Welcome back here again and again!

(ed: Ah to be 39 and counting again.)

# CONVENTION IN NORWICH JUNE 1979

by N.J.D. Walter  
(Clerk to the Board of Governors)

This is the first occasion I have had the honor to be Clerk to the Governors of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust when the Association has had their convention in Norwich, although I saw quite a lot of the visit in 1975. As Clerk to the Governors, I had of course, been involved in the considerable correspondence and organization that had been taking place over the months in preparation for the visit, and as the time drew nearer and the arrangements became more finalized, I appreciated the very considerable amount of work that was put in by those involved in the organization — Evelyn Cohen the Vice President membership, Mr. Eaton the Chairman of the Governors, and of course Mr. George Wortley who was responsible for the arrangements on this end.

I came to the initial reception where all the Members of the Association gathered after their flights which was held on the Friday evening in Blackfriars Hall, an informal get together and buffet supper, and when I arrived there it really came home to me how incredible it all was. I had seen the nominal list of members of the Association who were coming and although I hadn't counted it up, it would seem that you come together from all the States in the Union and catch your various flights, having made all your various domestic arrangements, and then arrive in Norwich, England in the evening of Friday, 1st June.

This, of course, is the first occasion on which all those attending the annual convention meet again after a lapse of a year since the previous convention. If nothing else it brought home to me the wonders of modern travel and of course the incredible relationship of the members of the Association who, of their own free will, travel thousands of miles to be in this place at that time. There was much greeting of old friends and remarkably few speeches and it seemed to me general enjoyment.

You had kindly brought the long awaited summer with you from far off California and Florida and all the other States from which you had travelled. It was perhaps an interesting contrast of this day and age that in the next door rather larger St. Andrew's Hall which joins on to Blackfriars Hall, there was something called a punk rock concert going on and as you arrived and departed you were mingling, if not too enthusiastically, with these rather weird young people who were queueing outside

in order to go in to listen to what is supposed to be modern music.

The Council chamber and the public gallery were inadequate to provide seating for all those who attended the business meeting which was a very healthy sign. The business seemed to be got through with expedition and efficiency. There was robust participation from the floor in the business of the Association which was delightful to hear and to see the dexterity with which your distinguished President, "Rick" Rokicki, handled the questions from the floor with ready wit. After the business meeting there was a little time to spare so we repaired to the George and Dragon on Hay Hill, quite a reasonable public house for Norwich. Some of you may remember that it was close by where the Haymarket Cinema used to be.

The George and Dragon was doing its usual thriving Saturday market day trade and it was splendid to see the Norwich natives enjoying the presence in their midst in their public house of these distinguished visitors from America. I think it was Emily Long who in no time at all found one of the natives who had a full pocket of our old style coinage with pennies and sixpences and half crowns and they were swapping reminiscences on the terrible change to decimalization we have suffered, although of course you have had it with you for many years. Perhaps I had better not dwell for too long on "J. D." Long's kind offer of a lift home for me after the lunch in his British hire car which he had collected that morning and which typically refused to start after the lunch.

Norwich was enjoying its invasion, one found members of the Association all over the place, which really stimulated us all. I enjoyed the joint reception by the County Council and the City Council in the Castle Keep in the evening and once again was delighted with the wide ranging background and locality from which you all came. I found myself involved in technical discussions about blue grass and horse rearing in Texas, not to mention how to run a University in North Carolina.

Sunday, my mother and I had the pleasure of entertaining Joyce and Jordan Uttal and Ruth and Ray Strong to supper. I excavated for their benefit, the war time publication "Target Germany" which described for the benefit of those of us living in England, the arrival of the 8th Air Force and their commencing operations. But it was, I am afraid, terribly

one sided and there were far too many of those B-17's and definitely far too few B-24's.

Both my mother and I were honored with invitations to your excellent banquet in St. Andrew's Hall on the Tuesday evening and thoroughly enjoyed it. The organization and atmosphere and Jordan Uttal's thumbnail sketches of the high table, perhaps the outstanding recollection in my memory is of the expression on Joan Benn's face when she was presented with your most generous and imaginative gift to her to mark her retirement as principal assistant librarian responsible for the Memorial library — a return ticket and accommodation at next year's convention in Cambridge, Massachusetts. However, with her usual resilience, she had quite by chance got a speech of about 43 foolscap pages in her capacious handbag and her balance was restored in no time at all.

That function marked the end of the official program and you then dispersed your various ways to Scotland, England and the Continent before returning home. We of course had our annual meeting of the Governors of the Memorial Trust and again we were honored with the distinguished presence and enlivening comment of not only our American Governor Jordan Uttal, but also your President, and Bill Robertie the indefatigable newsletter Editor, and of course Hathy Veynar.

I did not, unfortunately, get into your war. As soon as I joined the Royal Navy they gave up in Europe. When I set sail for the Far East the Japanese threw up their hands as well. I was therefore at school during most of the war and my school holidays were spent in Norwich and it is for me an unfading memory of the squadrons, the bomb groups, the lead ships, taking off from Horsham and Rackheath and Attlebridge and Hethel and Wendling and all the other airfields. Now I agree they are mostly used for raising chickens in broiler houses.

The thundering roar, the circling, the formation gaining and then the setting off and then we, as no doubt your ground staff also, would wait for them to come back and hope that they would all return safely. We know that many did not, but if I may finish on the same theme, we all hope that you will come back to Norwich and that this was not the last visit we shall see because it did us a lot of good.



# BULLETIN BOARD

## ALL HAM OPERATORS SOUGHT

In the March issue of the Newsletter we printed a letter from Pat Burns telling how he had made contact with another 2nd AD member who was also a Ham operator.

Dave Patterson (445th) has suggested that all 2nd ADA members who are Ham operators get on the air every so often for a communication reunion. Dave was able to supply the following with their call letters. (I hope that's right!)

Tom Newton — WA8DGN

Roy Jonasson — K6TOE

Dave Patterson — KA6APK

Pat Burns — W6Gue

Charles Manning — WA6LEA

If there are any more make yourself known. Tom Newton suggests 15 meters (possibly 20) at around 14.30 MHz, and weekends 0100 UTC. Now please don't ask me what that means as I do not have the foggiest.



## WHO HE?

Dave Patterson took the above photo while riding on a bus but he cannot remember who the 'culprit' is. By 'culprit' we mean anyone who can get into his uniform after 35 years deserves to be shot. Dave would like the subject of this photo to have it for his album. Identify yourself please.

## 2nd AD BLAZER PATCHES

Evelyn Cohen informs me that she still has a large supply of 2nd AD Blazer patches on hand so if you missed ordering one the last time around DO IT NOW.



I wish we could show you this in the original colors but printing costs forbid this. Just take my word for it that they are beautiful and made a brilliant display at the reunion where everyone seemed to have one.

Cost is \$3.00 and send your check or money order to Evelyn Cohen, 610 Plaza Towers, 2350 Tremont St., Philadelphia, PA. 19115.

Hal C. Tyree, Jr., who spent part of his early flying days in the Eighth Air Force, is again serving on an 8-AF facility. But there's a difference. The first time around, he was a lieutenant in the 44th Bomb Group. Now, he's a major general, commanding the entire Illinois Air National Guard.

In civilian life, Gen. Tyree is chemical laboratory chief, Research and Development Center, Electro-Motive Division, General Motors Corporation, LaGrange, Illinois.

# LETTERS

To the President and Members  
Second Air Division Association

My dear friends,

Those of you who attended the Norwich Convention will already know of my surprise and delight at receiving a wonderful retirement present from you all. My thanks didn't do justice to the occasion and I would like to express them more clearly but just as deeply in this letter.

You couldn't have thought of anything better than a round trip to Boston for your 1980 Convention, however hard you had tried. I have greatly enjoyed the Norwich Conventions, but have never been privileged to attend one in the USA. I value your generous gesture, not only for the great happiness which I know the trip will bring me, but also for the thoughtfulness and genuine friendship which must surely lie behind the idea.

It was wonderful to meet so many old friends and to make new ones as I did this year and I look forward to a grand reunion in Boston in 1980.

With best wishes for the continuing success of your Association,

Yours sincerely

Joan Benns

(formerly librarian in charge of  
American Memorial Library,  
Norwich)

Dear Bill Robertie:

The 32nd Reunion of the Second Air Division is now behind us and we will have a lot of memories from it. Needless to say Margarete and I enjoyed it very much and appreciate all the work which went into making it a success.

I took some pictures and I am enclosing one in case you want it for something. It is of four guys from the 492nd Bomb Group and was taken on the taxi strip at North Pickenham. The runway is about all that is left and is used for



turkey houses. The four of us are left to right: Gilbert Green of Bloomville, Ohio; Elmer W. Clary, Los Altos, Calif.; F. A. "Bud" Beasley, Bay City, Texas; and Art Raisig, Tyler, Texas.

Hope everyone had a very enjoyable time after the reunion was over and all had a safe trip home.

I want to express my thanks to you for all you do to make the Association a success and I know all of the other members feel the same way, tho some of them may not tell you so.

I'll close this short note and be looking forward to your next Newsletter. Keep up the good work.

F. A. "Bud" Beasley (492nd)  
(ed: Acting in direct orders from several at the reunion the "Newsletter" is now the "Journal". That does NOT mean 40 pages instead of 20).

Dear Bill and Hazel:

Joyce and I enjoyed so much being with you both during our recent blast at the 32nd Convention in Norwich. As you know this was the fourth of our 32 conventions that we have had there, and each one seems to be better than the last, although it is difficult to comprehend how any one of them could have even equalled the 1963 trip — the Dedication of the Library.

We are sure that you, too, marvelled at the warmth and affection and the hospitality extended to us by the people of Norfolk. It is to be hoped that they realize how much those feelings are reciprocated.

The main purpose of this letter, Bill, if you can find space for it in the next issue of the Journal which you publish under the name of Newsletter, is to publicly offer our thanks to all who planned and executed this wonderful trip. Of course we have our dear Evelyn at the very top, and she kept working every minute, and the results once again demonstrated her ability and more important, gives evidence of the love and devotion she feels for the 2nd Air Division Association.

Then too, those of us who travelled on the Charter Aircraft are indebted to Hathy and Milt Veynar who were in charge of arrangements from Philadelphia with the able assistance of Anita and Ed Goldsmith who shepherded us from Chicago. I know there were others whom I have not named, and to all of them go our most sincere gratitude — and this includes our past President, Rick Rokicki, and all the Group V.P.s.

I am preparing an article on the State of the Memorial Trust. Can you drop me a line letting me know the publication deadline?

Jordan R. Uttal

P.S. So that nobody forgets, Tom Eaton and some of his associates very much added to the organization of the events overseas. Warm thanks!

Dear Evelyn:

Please find the enclosed check for \$10.00 to be applied to the purchase of one shoulder patch and also to pay for my next years dues. If there is any additional owed please let me know.

Needless to say, Maxine and I enjoyed the convention very much and wish to thank you for all of your hard work.

I was a little disappointed in the ceremony at Cambridge mainly because it was difficult to hear what was being said, possibly because of the placement of the loud speakers. It was quite impressive though.

We also enjoyed the excursion to the different airfields. Certainly brought back a lot of memories.

I retired from United Air Lines beginning the 1st of this July, so now I will have more time for correspondence and typing practice.

So, thanks again for the good time and get-together.

Elmer W. Clarey

Dear Evelyn:

Enclosed is check to cover Floyd's dues \$7.50 and an Air Force Patch \$3.00. If the dues are more than last year, please advise and I will send the additional.

Again we want to say how we enjoyed our trip to England. It was wonderful, weather, people and everything. Of course our highlight was our visit with our son and daughter-in-law. Looking forward to next year at Cambridge, Mass.

Hope you have recovered from the trip. See you next July.

Floyd & Roberta Bull

Dear Evelyn:

Congratulations to all of you involved with the Second Air Division Newsletter. It brings back a flood of memories to me. I enjoy the articles, letters, pictures — everything about it. There must be a tremendous amount of work involved in the production of such a classy publication.

I'm enclosing a check for a 2nd ADA blazer patch, balance for the library fund. Also enclosing negatives which I hope you can develop for your files. Will send more material along as soon as I can get it organized.

Does the 389th maintain any kind of organization? I'd like to research the full history of "Delectable Doris" if such records are still available.

H. W. Jeffrey

Dear Pretty Jewish Girl:

It is great to see that you are still revving at high RPM.

Please, do you have the address of the Lyndon C. Allen (44 BG) who contributed the article on page 12 of the June 1979 Newsletter? He appears to be a long unheard and unlocated crew member — the possible fourth remaining of our original ten. His name has not appeared on any 2 ADA rosters heretofore and his whereabouts has not been known for 31 years.

Please, also, a blazer patch for my A-2 jacket which again fits me after aborting a 30-year lardy accumulation of 65 pounds. If out of patches, use the money for whatever.

And, a copy of the March 1979 Newsletter??

Thank you very much.

Ed Burtsavage (44 BG)

P.S. Did you really have a pad off base and in Norwich? Tsk! Tsk! That wasn't kosher.

Dear Ms. Cohen:

Any such thing as a current roster? I'd appreciate a note as to whether there is one and how much you'd want for your trouble.

You have no idea how much of a kick I'm getting from your Newsletter. I want the roster to write to some of the guys that I know were shot down, but maybe survived.

Robert Satter (453rd)

Dear Evelyn Cohen:

Just received a copy of the Second Air Division Newsletter. Was very pleased as this was the first I knew of the Second Air Division Association. Enclosed is my membership application and check for dues.

I was in the 392 BG 577th Sqdn. Our ship was #164-P+ named Lady Eve. Pulled our first mission on D-Day June 6-44 and was the first crew to pull 35 missions at our base. Our skipper was Lt. James N. Barron, Co-pilot F/O Samuel C. Stalsby, Lt. David B. Feltman, Lt. Charles Atkinson, Sgts, Daniel L. Slater, Robert C. Osborne, Demar Sullivan, Thomas W. Salvato, James T. Cooper, and myself, Herman S. Garner.

I'm enclosing a clipping from the Newsletter with a story circled as it tells about the crash that our co-pilot was killed in. We never did know what happened other than that he was flying with another crew. They did not return. If you have any more information about F/O Stalsby or any of the other crew listed above, would you please send it to me. As you have noticed I added extra in the dues check to take of any extra postage.

Herman S. Garner  
1245 Fairview Drive  
Lexington, N.C. 27292

Dear Evelyn:

Heard about the reunion in Norwich on the Darry Stiles radio show on WEVD-FM - N.Y. a number of weeks ago, so when I visited Jamesburg, N.J. a few weeks ago, I phoned Pete Henry and he gave me all the details.

As I told Pete, this is one reunion that I would have loved to attend, to see the old town again after 35 years, but I'm afraid circumstances will not permit, as I will be pretty "tied up" at this time.

Pete was kind enough to send me a Newsletter and a membership application which I am sending to you along with my dues through the end of 1979.

I visit the Jamesburg area quite often and I have many friends in Cranbury and area.

I had no knowledge of a 2AD organization, and was so happy to know that one exists. Pete also informed me of your wonderful work in helping to form it. I'm sure all of the former members of the 2nd are grateful to you as I am.

Pete invited me to visit him on my next trip to Jamesburg, and I will see him then.

My best wishes for a youous reunion in Norwich. Oh, how I wish I could have made it. I know all the guys will have a great time.

Ray Callahan

Dear Miss Cohen:

Many tributes will have been paid to members of the 2nd Air Division Association during their visit to England, mostly by local 'bigwigs'. I should like as a wartime enlisted man to add mine.

As a former airman in the Royal Air Force Air Sea Rescue Service, I met many of the Liberator and Fortress crews, both ashore and at sea during rescues from ditched aircraft. All of us had great admiration and respect for the American aircrews. I recall many occasions while at sea awaiting the return of aircraft from operations. We would tune our radios to the 'ops' frequency and listen to the crews on their way home. They were of course still over enemy territory. Never once did I detect panic or fear in those young American voices. Even when forced to ditch, their position signals were clear and distinct, cheerful and full of confidence. I am convinced that they were the finest that your country has ever produced.



Above is the launch which picked up nine of the crew of Liberator 44-40154 of 859th B Sq, 492nd BG based at North Pickenham, Norfolk. Date May 29th, 1944.

I served in many theatres of war, in many countries, but my service which involved close association with the Eighth has left a lasting and affectionate impression.

Now some of them are in England again. Their presence is an honor and privilege to our country.

May I wish all members and their families a very happy and memorable visit. You will always be welcome.

C. Shutt

Master Coxswain RAF ASR.  
HM Coastguard. (Retired)  
94 Woodlands View Park  
Stratton Strawless Hall  
Norwich, Norfolk

Dear Evelyn:

I gather from the articles in the local Norfolk papers that your meeting went very well, and I know that you had a good time. I got back to Rackheath too late from Devon to try to see anyone, and then went to London on Sunday, for I had organized a dinner party of 22 for Monday evening, and took the morning flight back here on Tuesday. I had a good time seeing friends, which was what I planned for this trip, because I have not been able to get away from here for a couple of years.

Mrs. Gowling looked out of her kitchen window one day and saw a man taking pictures. She went to speak to him, and he turned out to be a Sgt. in our S-2 section. He was visiting his son in London, and when I called him, he told me that he knew nothing of our various "alumni" organizations and functions. And so, here is another membership:

Merlyn Augsburg  
5029 Pickett Drive  
Colorado Springs, Col. 80907  
All best to you.

Tom Goodyear (467th)

Dear Evelyn:

This is just a note to say thanks to you for all your efforts toward making Norwich '79 such a success. The whole affair could not have been better and I think that all of us that attended are indebted to you for all you did.

While I am at it, I don't think I have ever received a dues notice so I must be behind. My check is enclosed.

Thanks again for making it possible for us to have such a wonderful time.

Richard D. Butler

Dear Evelyn:

I just want to express my thanks to you and the staff for the great job you all are doing in putting the Newsletter together, plus keeping the 2nd AD Assn. going onward and upward.

Joe Michalczyk let me know that there was a 2nd AD Assn. in existence 4 years ago and I have been enjoying the Newsletter ever since. I have not been able to attend a convention yet, but if there is ever one in the Boston-Providence area, I'll sure try to make it.

Reading the Newsletter has really jogged my memory of things that I had almost forgotten about. I have gone thru my old photo album and found a lot of pictures of people and events both in the States and the U.K. For example: the results of the March 25, 1945 raid supporting the Rhine crossing; the explosion of the lead plane on a mission April 17th (our crew lost some good friends that day); a trip to Chievies, Belgium (P-51 base) in early May '45; crew and passengers of the first (for our crew) trolley mission after the end of the war; and V-E night on the base. I will gladly send them to you, but would like them returned.

Our crew flew the northern route in January '45 (Mitchell Field to Dow Field to Goose Bay, Lab. to B.W. #3, Greenland to Meeks Field, Iceland to Wales to Stone-Handley). We were assigned to the 713rd Sqdn. of the 448th Bm Gp. where we flew 11 missions and I abort from early Feb. to June '45. Two of the planes we flew in while in the 448th were "Ole 76" and "Blues in the Night". Returning to the States we flew from Seething to Wales to Lagens, Azores to Gander, Newfoundland to Bradley Field, Conn.

I wonder how many of the members were in the same time frame as our crew.

By the way, I have enclosed a check for \$3.00 for one of those 2nd AD patches if you still have any left. If you are out of supply just add it to the Memorial Fund.

Norm Dunphe

Dear Mrs. Cohen:

You will find three enclosures, my check for the Second Air Division Association dues, a picture and a propoganda leaflet.

The picture of "Z" Zeke was taken over the



Alps. The aircraft in the picture was from the 707th Bomb Squadron, 446th Bomb Group and was flying the 273rd and last combat mission that our group flew in World War II. The date was 25 April 1945, the target was Salzburg, Austria.

The propoganda leaflets were dropped during our 15 January 1945 mission to Reutlinger, Germany.

Thank you very much for the December 1978 Newsletter. I read every word. Hope my wife and I can attend one of the future reunions.

Max W. Minear

Dear Evelyn:

I was pleased to learn of the Second Air Division Assn., via Donald V. Birdsall, a fellow employee at the Boeing Airplane Co. Flight Center.

Enclosed is a copy of some Second Division Orders which identify me as a Pilot in the 715 Bomb Sqdn., 448 Bomb Group which was stationed outside the city of Norwich, England. I am most anxious for the opportunity to communicate with former members of that organization.

Included is a check for \$7.00 to cover membership dues. Kindly mail me copies of your very interesting Newsletter.

Harry W. Snyder

Dear Evelyn:

I contacted Don Olds after noting his name in my American Legion magazine and also the Air Force magazine. I would be happy to join the 2nd Air Division Association as I am very proud of the 453rd Bomb Gp. I would like to point out that I left the Group at Pocatello, Idaho and transferred to the Air Transport Command. I am proud of the fact that I was the first Operations Chief Clerk for the 735th Bomb Sqd. One of those things in the Army and a war I was sent to Airplane and Enginee Mechanic School by the Air Transport Command which became my main classification including membership on a flight crew when they were desperate.

James A. Egan (453rd)

Dear Ms. Cohen:

I am interested in joining your association.

I was in the 445th bomb group stationed at Tibenham, England from July '44 to June of '45. I flew 29 missions and was a 1st Lieutenant Pilot.

I found out about your association from a good friend of mine, Bob Armbruster, Cedarburg, WI. He is going on your Norwich 1979 excursion — Sounds exciting and nostalgic. Wish I'd found out about it sooner — I spent a lot of leave time in Norwich.

Please send application and information.

William J. Sorgel

44th

Jean & Gloria Bressler  
 Dick & Ardith Butler  
 Don Chase  
 Art Cullen  
 Dave D'Amico  
 Bob & Irma Dubowsky  
 Jake Elias  
 Al & Emma Franklin  
 Art & Lois Hand  
 Mike & Kay Fusano  
 Bill Hawkins  
 Pete & Mary Henry  
 Charlie Hughes  
 Arvin & Audrey Irish  
 Al & Mary Jones  
 Bob & June Lee  
 Dave & Gini McCash  
 Bill & Hazel Robertie  
 Milt & Leila Rosenblatt  
 Don & Betty Turner  
 George & Ruth Washburn

445th

R.J. & Betty Campbell  
 Charlie & Evelyn Cooper  
 Frank & Elizabeth DiMola  
 Bob & Cass Drummond  
 Ed & Anita Goldsmith  
 Max Loya  
 Dave & Joan Patterson  
 Paul & Marjorie Schwartz

389th

Harry & Lorraine Boos  
 Lyman & Geneva Crumrin  
 Jim & Ava Collins  
 Bernie & Anne Dispenza  
 John Driscoll  
 Jim & Mary Frankinburger  
 Russ & June Hayes  
 Bruce Helmer  
 Dal & Betty Howard  
 Howard & Joyce Hinchman  
 George & Bette Johnson  
 Leon & Lani Klinghoffer  
 Bentley Kern  
 J.B. & Mamie Maguire  
 Lee & Carol Rackley  
 Bob Saugen  
 Al Sheard  
 Dave Thomas

Hdq.

Evelyn & Lillian Cohen  
 Jackie Hanify  
 J. Livingston & Tina Jones  
 Lenard & Gladys Ludwig  
 Marilyn Fritz Snyder/  
 Ann Bunning  
 Ray & Ruth Strong  
 Jordan & Joyce Uttal  
 Hathy, Milt & Caron Veynar  
 Neil & Karen Wolf

**THOSE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE  
 32nd Annual Convention 1979  
 held in Norwich, England**

446th

George, Leona &  
 Katherine Gigstad  
 Carl Gjelhaug  
 Clarence Hooks  
 Bob & Lorraine Moore  
 Elmer, Annie Mae Mott/  
 Brenda Fay Leggett  
 Dick & Ruth Wann

93rd

Charlie & Roseanne Aton  
 Gene & Dolores Hoffman  
 Ray & Millie Hunt  
 Lou & Freda Koch  
 Chuck & Martha Merrill  
 Bob & Madeline McKeever  
 Joe Roure  
 Joe Thorley  
 Charlie & Elsie Weiss

466th

Herb & Alice Achterberg/  
 Joy Bunkowski  
 Jim & Bernice Adams  
 Ralph Beggs  
 Joe & Maxine Cecil  
 Dan & Marina Chadbourne  
 John & Mary Leeds  
 Seward & Neely Meintsma  
 Gerry & Sammie Merket  
 Stu & Sara Pease  
 Hank & Edie Tevelin  
 Fred & Peggy Venables  
 Vicki & Kurt Warming  
 Joe West  
 Frank & Phyllis Wolcott

489th

Jack Albright  
 Charlie & Twyla Baker  
 Robert Boyle  
 John Brody  
 Bud & Mike Chamberlain  
 Charlie & Helen Freudenthal  
 John Kernode

492nd

Bud & Margarette Beasley  
 Elmer & Maxine Clarey  
 Gil Green  
 A.G. & Betty Raisig

448th

Sid & Mary Allen  
 Al & Jeanette Bishop  
 Stu & Gladys Barr  
 Jim & Peggy Bell  
 Doug & Eulah Dann  
 George & Hazel Dickinson  
 George DuPont  
 Leroy Engdahl  
 Rex, Fern & Jennifer Furness  
 George & May Finch  
 Frank & Lorraine Gibson  
 Gail & June Irish  
 Walt Johnson  
 Joe & Phyllis Longo  
 Clyde Randall  
 Walt Smith  
 Downey & Marie Thomas  
 Bob & Marguerite Williams  
 Charlie & Betty Yant

392nd

Vern Baumgart  
 Floyd, Roberta, Ken &  
 Carol Jean Bull  
 George & Katherine Bruney  
 Keith & Wanda Chapman  
 Odell Dobson  
 Art & Loretta Decker  
 Laurence & Isabel Gram  
 Bob & Jane Harned  
 Walt & Ena Hebron  
 J.D. & Emily Long  
 Oak & Maxine Mackey  
 W.P. O'Neill  
 Bob & Margaret Powers  
 Emil & Peggy Riha  
 Don & Ruth Scharf  
 Jim & Elva Thomas  
 Don & Emily Whitford  
 Norbert & Marion Wick

491st

Mike Fagan  
 Guy, Mildred, Patrick McElhany/  
 Noreen Rodacker

467th

Arch & Helen Boisselle  
 George & Katherine Church  
 George & Mary Condry  
 Ken & Dot Darney  
 Weldon & Helen Gruver  
 Joe & Florence Haenn  
 Lloyd & Carmen Haug  
 Jim & Helen Martin  
 John Logan  
 Rocky & Ida Rothchild  
 Bob, Anne, Bob III &  
 George Stone  
 Francis & Elvira Stokes  
 Al & Florence Straub/  
 Christine Wisler

453rd

Jr. & Jackie Austin  
 LeRoy & Gloria Berg  
 Herb & Cynthia Bradley  
 John & Frances Cowger  
 John & Maxine Fiorillo  
 Russ Harriman  
 Phil & Joanne Johanneson  
 Jim Kotapish  
 Ed & Evelyn Limstrong  
 O.K. & Lovey Long  
 Andy & Helen Low  
 Jim MacNew  
 Roy & Ramono Myers  
 Don & Mimi Olds  
 Dan & Muriel Reading  
 Bob & Inez Sands  
 Milt, Lucille & Virginia Stokes  
 Frank & Jackie Thomas  
 Bob, Isabelle & Barbara Victor  
 Del & Doris Wangsvick  
 Bob & Helen Wolfe

458th

Charlie Aillet  
 Robert Armbruster  
 Warren & Norma Burman  
 Bill & Mickey Cunningham  
 Harold & Frances Dane  
 George & Chris Ferrell  
 Fred & Eileen Frenz  
 Dick, Lois & Jean Fairfield  
 Eldon & Gert Gebaroff  
 Stan & Rayna Johnson  
 Charlie & Skeet Pool  
 George Reynolds  
 Bill & Betty Ramstad  
 Ed & Dorothy Robbins  
 Rick & Ceil Rokicki  
 Walt & Helen Stynetski

ARC

Dorothy McDonald Harrison - 93rd  
 Margaret Ayers &  
 Norris Host - 466th

**AMERICAN BANKERS PLEASE TAKE NOTE**

Prior to our arrival in Norwich arrangements had been made with Barclays Bank for our members to exchange their dollars for pounds. As soon as every customer had been taken care of the bank tellers spread out linen tablecloths and trotted out the sherry and wine which they proceeded to serve to all our members. Ever hear of that happening in one of our banks?

Come to think of it, maybe our New York City Banks should try this approach the next time they are held up. A tipsy bandit should be easy to capture!



Ed and Anita Goldsmith left and Elizabeth Dimola right enjoy the departure from norm.

SGT. FLAKBAITE



"HEY JOE, HOW MUCH DEFLECTION FOR A HANDCAR?"